

Docket No.: 67161-101

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Akiko SAKAI	:	Confirmation Number:
	:	
Serial No.:	:	Group Art Unit:
	:	
Filed: September 23, 2003	:	Examiner:
	:	
For: PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT METHOD USING DELIVERY DATE PREDICTION		

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevance of the six references listed on the attached Form 1449, are discussed in the present specification.

**Serial No.:**

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Becker", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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**Date: September 23, 2003**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>67161-101</b>		SERIAL NO.	
(PTO-1449)				APPLICANT <b>Akiko SAKAI</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>September 23, 2003</b>		GROUP	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US					
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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number 4 -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
							Yes      No
		JP P2002-341920A	11/29/2002	NEC YAMAGATA			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 2002-99318A	04/05/2002	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 11-188583A	07/13/1999	CANON INC.			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 9-277141A	10/28/1997	NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP <NTT> NTT FUANETSUTO SYST KK			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 6-203042A	07/22/1994	NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP <NTT>			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
		JP 5-131345A	05/28/1993	NEC KYUSHU LTD			JAPAN (w/English Abstract)
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.